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BOOK REVIEWS

Traité des variations des os de la face de l'homme, et de leur signification au point de vue de l'anthropologie zoologique. Par M. LE DR A. F. LE DOUBLE. Paris: Vigot Frères, 1906. 8°, xx, 471 pp., 163 figs.

The present work of Professor Le Double is one of a series by the same author dealing with variation. Like the preceding volume on variations in the bones of the cranial vault, already reviewed in these pages (vol. VI, no. 5), this represents the first important effort toward a résumé of the entire subject, supplemented with personal observations.

In his preface the author enumerates, with some superfluity, his services to science. The treatment of the variations of the nasal bones occupies 37 pages of the text; of the lachrymal bone, 34; inferior turbinated, 8; vomer 8; palate bones, 26; malar, 52; superior maxilla, 141; and inferior maxilla, 71. Pages 379-408 comprise Dr Le Double's conclusions, and pages 411-442 contain additions to his previous work on cranial variations.

The volume is well worth perusal, or rather consultation, although the ever-present *ego* interferes somewhat with the reading. Facial variations are classed, on the basis of their etiology, into (1) reversive, (2) those due to ossification in an aponeurosis or a ligament, (3) those due to vascular, nervous, tendinous, or glandular pressure, (4) those due to a retardation or insufficiency of ossification, (5) those that are the effect of physiological or pathological dystrophy, and (6) monstrosities. The discussion of the variations of each bone proceeds according to a definite sequence, which facilitates reference to any particular feature; and the numerous bibliographical references will prove of service to the student.

Among the defects of the work are the incomplete treatment of certain features, and at least in some cases a lack of thoroughness in the digestion of the material. The arguments of the author also are not always fortunate; thus, for instance, the teeth of the Australians (p. 215, 403) are not "enormous," compared with those of whites. Finally, the fulness of the bibliographical references, and many of the illustrations, leave much to be desired.

The next work promised by Professor Le Double will be devoted to a study of the variations, through excess, of the hair of the human body.

A. HRDLICKA.